

# Honolulu Star-Bulletin

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EDITOR

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## THE NEW SHIP REGISTRY BILL

Under the broad terms of the bill passing through Congress to put foreign ships under American registry, any foreign-built ship may come under the American flag provided it is American-owned.

The house bill indorsed by the senate yesterday was drafted in the White House after the president and Democratic Leader Underwood had discussed the situation. It is known as the Underwood Merchant Marine Relief bill and is as follows:

"Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, that the words 'not more than five years old at the time they apply for registry' in section 5 of the act entitled 'An Act to provide for the opening, maintenance, protection and operation of the Panama canal; and the sanitation and government of the Canal Zone,' are hereby repealed.

"Sec. 2. That the President of the United States is hereby authorized, whenever in his discretion the needs of foreign commerce may require, to suspend by order, so far as he may deem desirable, the provisions of the law prescribing that all the watch officers of vessels of the United States registered for foreign trade shall be citizens of the United States.

"Under like conditions, in like manner and to like extent, the President of the United States is also hereby authorized to suspend the provisions of law requiring survey, inspection and measurement by officers of the United States of foreign built vessels admitted to American register under this act.

"Sec. 3. This act shall take effect immediately."

According to recent despatches, the movement to restrict the scope of the bill has not succeeded. All restrictions on registry are removed except that which provides that ships thus admitted must be owned by American citizens or American corporations.

Change of registry, it should be noticed, must be accompanied by an actual change of hands and bona fide sale. Unless there is a bona fide change in ownership, international law would not observe the neutrality and immunity from seizure of any vessel that ran to the masthead the American flag merely to save her from molestation by a hostile warship.

## AN ARGUMENT FALSIFIED

Piling up armament bills in staggering quantities, ministers and cabinets of Europe have put forward the invariable cry, "Military preparedness is the best guarantee against war."

With this to placate the people who paid the bills, France, Germany, Russia, England and Austria have gone on enlarging armies and navies, putting uncounted millions into forts and sea-coast defenses, guns and ammunition, aeroplane fleets and naval bases around the world.

"We are not making ready for war—we are taking the surest means of preventing war," shouted the archpriests of militarism.

And yet when Austria and Serbia engaged in controversy, did all this gigantic structure of military preparedness operate to block a general war? Not at all. Precisely the contrary, in fact. Every minister and general, every archduke and chancellor, every admiral and captain of a phalanx, chorused in unison, "We have seen this war coming for four decades and are ready for it!" And because the European powers had been trebling armies and quadrupling navies, they were ready at once to take the field against each other. Their military preparedness was not a check against war but an incentive to war.

And the time-honored argument of the apostles of militarism crumbled—crumbled at the first under-growings of European conflict.

What a travesty on statesmanship this policy of European militarism is now revealed!

## WAR AND AMERICAN TRADE

Among the really tremendous opportunities offered by the European war for the United States to build up commercial relations with other countries is that of South American financial development.

European bankers have succeeded in getting a strong grip on South American finances because European banking-houses have been more ready to buy South American bonds than have American institutions. But the war will put an end to European purchases of foreign bonds and at the same time will induce many of the British and Continental banking-houses to get rid of what bonds they hold for the sake of securing ready money, now in such imperative demand.

Although American trade is well established in Argentina, Brazil, Chile, and Peru and is growing despite the lack of direct banking facilities, steamship accommodations, etc., American banks are imperatively needed in South America as a dependable resource in the campaign for greater trade. This is the conclusion

of E. N. Hurley, President of the Illinois Manufacturers' Association, who has submitted to the Department of Commerce a report on banking and credit in South America, based upon a careful investigation of that field. Mr. Hurley was assigned to this special task by Secretary Redfield, who is making a strenuous effort to increase the sale of American products in South America and was instrumental in securing an appropriation from Congress for this particular purpose.

Foreign and native banking houses reasonably well accommodate the ordinary routine of American trade, Mr. Hurley states, but they naturally withhold the full measure of interest and solicited support accorded to enterprises of their own nationality. Moreover, many valuable collateral benefits arising from the financing of over-sea trade are lost through American reliance upon London banking mediation, while the compulsory use of European materials in many South American enterprises financed in Europe is steadily restricting the potential market for American goods. American salesmen and trading houses also lack the support given by foreign banks to their national trade seekers.

German trade has been extended largely by the aid of longer credits than are granted by other countries, and German banks have been more minute in their organizations of this service. As South American countries are being developed largely with funds from European countries, information as to the character and standing of persons back of the various enterprises is the first need of those whom they approach abroad; hence foreign banks have become channels through which investments are made in railways, light and power companies, etc. Without the detailed information that the foreign banks possess or can obtain of these numerous projects, the development of South America would not proceed so rapidly.

Foreign investments in South America may be divided into loans to governments and loans for industrial purposes. South American government bonds are largely held in Europe and the fiscal policy of these countries is materially affected by the attitude of European bankers. Government ownership of utilities is extensive and loans for municipal improvements are numerous. This not only assures the European investor his interest but also extends the market for imported materials. In recent years the practice of stipulating the use of materials from countries loaning the money for railways, port works, etc., has increased, and this operates to restrict the field for American manufacturers, since American capital does not largely enter the South American field.

The rumor that Attorney Joseph Lightfoot is likely to be landed on the circuit bench by appointment from Washington is by no means a new one. It was the subject of local discussion several weeks ago and was revived when Judges Ashford and Edings were appointed. Again a few days ago the Star-Bulletin mentioned it and now the rumor receives color in correspondence from Washington. Events within the past week lead to the conclusion that Washington hopes to fill all the judiciary places possible in Hawaii with Democrats. It would be reassuring if there were as much ground for the conclusion that Washington is regarding the matter from the standpoint of merit as well as of political expediency.

Readers of the Star-Bulletin are following with great interest the series of articles on the European nations now at war prepared by a high officer of the Hawaiian department. These articles are up-to-date, impartial and reliable and are designed to give a clear insight into the military situation in Europe with its greatest nations at war. The article today is published on page 10.

A survey of the field of supervisory candidates indicates that two or three first-class businessmen with qualities of leadership are needed to come forward and reinforce the comparatively few avowed aspirants really worth supporting.

The report that Japan contemplates seizing all German territory in the Pacific needs considerable further confirmation before it should cause any uneasiness in America.

Five thousand tourists a week! That's what Honolulu should have. What it means is told in an "Ad Club Talk" on page 12 today.

Reinforced by those two lately-American battleships, Greece will keep Turkey busy for awhile.

Better sixty days of Thomas than a cycle of—well, of what?

Napoleon must be uneasy in his grave these days.

## Letters OF THE WEEK

(The Star-Bulletin invites free and frank discussion in this column on all legitimate subjects of current interest. Communications are constantly received to which no signature is attached. This paper will treat as confidential signatures to letters if the writers so desire, but cannot give space for anonymous communications.)

### JUSTICE FOR JACK DESHA.

August 17, 1914.  
Editor Honolulu Star-Bulletin.  
Sir:  
I sent the following communication to the Pacific Commercial Advertiser on Saturday morning with reference to a statement in an editorial reflecting on Mr. J. R. Desha, the delegate's secretary. Apparently that paper does not care to publish it.

Would you kindly find space for it in the Star-Bulletin; for I think you would be willing to do justice to a deserving young man.

Very truly yours,

D. L. WITHINGTON.

The communication referred to by Mr. Withington is as follows:  
Editor Pacific Commercial Advertiser:  
I have never believed that the political interests of anyone were advanced or injured by a campaign of misrepresentation and abuse, but it does give me pain to see a newspaper which has had the standing of the Pacific Commercial Advertiser in this community misrepresenting the work of a young native Hawaiian whose family have struggled to give him as good an education as this country affords and who is occupying a position where his standing at home is important for the success of his efforts.

Between the 1st of May and the 17th of July I was in Washington six times, and from the 19th of June was almost continually there, and was at the office of the delegate nearly every day and found Mr. Desha attentive to his duties, efficient and well thought of. I esteemed him fortunate to have Mr. McClellan, secretary to the delegate, but in some respects Mr. Desha has proved more valuable. During the time I was in Washington he was absent one day on account of sickness, and one day the office was occupied by the force in the adjoining office who had special work to do. With the exception of the occasions when the secretary, in the course of his business, was visiting the departments or wait-

ing on Congress, he was always on hand. I saw a sack of mail before the door but there was a sack of mail before every door.

If Mr. Ogg made the statement which you have reported him to have made and drew the inference which you drew, it is enough to say that Mr. W. W. Goodale who was with him and who has had much greater experience in Washington with Congress, drew no such inference, and has no such opinion of Mr. Desha's ability or attention to duty.

DAVID L. WITHINGTON.  
August 15, 1914.

### SPEAKING OF THE CARNIVAL.

Editor Honolulu Star-Bulletin.

Sir: I am glad to see the decided stand the people of this city are taking in regard to holding the carnival next February (and every succeeding February). There is a lot of this brilliant far-sightedness floating around, and it comes to the surface once in a while.

Honolulu does not want to fool herself in this matter. If, by any possible "fluke" it should be decided not to hold the carnival next year we may as well make up our minds that it has been abandoned for all time. This would certainly be an inglorious conclusion for Hawaii.

Are we going to acknowledge that all this enthusiasm of ours about the carnival stunt has been merely an inflated cheer, and that possibly because there may be a deficit of a few cents after the affair is all over for the year we are to throw up the whole thing and to announce that we will not indulge in this carnival fun unless there is money in it?

We may not make the announcement to that effect in the same clarion tones that we announce this to be the "Paradise of the Pacific," but it will mean the same, and the many on the mainland who read of the decision to postpone the carnival will have but little difficulty in understanding that such is the exact import of our action. Our reputation for doing things that are worth while is too closely bound up in this annual carnival to think for a moment of abandoning it. If it is to be put off on the year that it should be made to shine the brightest, let's go down to the wharf and jump off the end and say, "here goes nothing." M. M.

## Personal Mention

JAMES B. CASTLE, is back from a business trip to Hawaii. He returned to the Mauna Kea this morning.

SAM PARKER, JR., and Mrs. Parker have completed a tour of the Pacific coast, returning in the Matsonia this morning.

JUDGE W. S. WISE, of Hilo, was numbered with the passengers to return to the islands in the Matson steamer Matsonia.

C. H. BROWN, who has been absent on the mainland on business connected with the local lodge of Moose, returned today in the Matson steamer Matsonia.

MRS. CHARLES G. BOCKUS, three children and maid are back from a trip to the mainland. They were passengers in the Matson Navigation steamer Matsonia.

HAROLD BUEH, the well-known pianist, who recently visited Honolulu, expects to return to this city from Australia September 6, and plans to give a concert at the Opera House September 14.

MRS. MARGARET E. HERBST, of San Francisco, a passenger in the Matsonia, will be the guest of Honolulu friends during the stay of the vessel at this port. Mrs. Herbst will continue the trip to the island of Hawaii, visiting the volcano.

A. W. T. BOTTOMLEY of Bishop & Company has completed a business tour of the island of Hawaii, returning to this city this morning as a passenger in the steamer Mauna Kea.

J. H. BARRY, editor of the San Francisco Star, with Mrs. Barry and Miss E. Barry, are visitors to Honolulu as passengers in the Matson Navigation steamer Matsonia this morning. Barry may make a general tour of the islands before returning to the coast.

H. P. WOOD, secretary of the Pro-

## FOR SALE

WE OFFER FOR SALE A DESIRABLE HOME IN PUUNUI, WHICH CAN BE SECURED ON EASY TERMS. THE LOT IS 108x186, AND IMPROVED WITH BEARING FRUIT TREES. HOUSE COMPREHENS LIVINGROOM, KITCHEN, TWO BEDROOMS AND BATH, AND HAS ALL THE MODERN IMPROVEMENTS.

THIS PROPERTY CAN BE SECURED ON A DOWN PAYMENT OF \$1000, WITH BALANCE ON EASY PAYMENTS.

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## The Calling Card

Distinction will ever be sought—and particularly does one demand it in his or her Calling Cards.

Ever bearing this in mind, we have, for the Fall, adopted an entirely new style of card engraving—the "Shaded Grecian."

With the new panelled card it forms a combination of beauty and elegance in which the truly cultured and aristocratic rejoice.

Wouldn't it be well to see our samples?

WICHMAN & CO.

Jewelers

Angello Lopes da Cunha Pessoa, recently appointed by the Portuguese government as its consul-general for the Hawaiian Islands, left San Francisco on the Sierra today to assume his new duties in Honolulu, according to cable information received by Hawaii.

Dr. Luiz R. Gaspar, acting Portuguese consul. Senhor Pessoa will fill the position left vacant by the recent death of A. de S. Canavarro. The new consul is accompanied by his wife, whom he married in Lisbon, Portugal, shortly before leaving for Hawaii.

## Today

is the best time to consider your will. Consult us. Don't leave your estate subject to the laws of descent. Your desires may be different. Now is the time to look forward and settle the matter. Guard against delays, loss, expense, publicity and legal complications.

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If you are looking for a home in College Hills, this property will attract you.

Particulars at our office.

## "Waterhouse Trust"

Cor. Fort and Merchant Sts.